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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/674,734

09/30/2003

Alan G. Smith

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23494

7590

10/23/2006

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EXAMINER

PHAM, CHRYSTINE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2192

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/674,734	Applicant(s) SMITH	
	Examiner Chrystine Pham	Art Unit 2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to application 10/674734 filed on September 30, 2003. Claims 1-11 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keohane et al. (US 2003/0236799 A1, "Keohane") in view of Moore et al. (US 5696975, "Moore").

Claim 1

Keohane teaches a computer system downloading application programs to a computer device (see at least *downloading and deleting applications* Abstract) comprising:

a computer system having a first data type table that stores application and file type associations (see at least 403, 405, 409 FIG.4 & associated text; 602, 605, 607 FIG.6 & associated text; paragraph [0009]);

a system computer software routine that is used to determine which application is to be used for a given file type (see at least 403, 405, 409 FIG.4 & associated text; 602, 605, 607 FIG.6 & associated text).

Keohane does not expressly disclose downloading said application programs from a removable storage (i.e., having application programs on removable storage); at least one removable memory module that can be inserted into the computer system such that the storage locations on the module become assessable to the computer system; an application program stored on the removable memory module; a second data type table stored on the removable memory module; said software routine combine the first and second data type table to form a virtual extension table that is used to determine which application is to be used for a given file type.

However, Moore discloses a computer system having application programs stored on removeable storage (see at least 124, 126 FIG.6A & associated text); at least one removable memory module that can be inserted into the computer system such that the storage locations on the module become assessable to the computer system (see at least 112, 116, 118, 122, 120 FIG.6A & associated text); an application program stored on the removable memory module (see at least 124, 126 FIG.6A & associated text).

Keohane and Moore are analogous art because they are both directed to downloading and installing applications. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the pertinent art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Moore into that of Keohane for the inclusion of a second data type table stored on the removable memory module and said software routine combine the first and second data type table to form a virtual extension table that is used to determine which application is to be used for a given file type. And the motivation for doing so would have been to

provide associated applications (from external sources such as the network or the removable storage) for executing certain file types residing on the computer system (see at least Keohane paragraph [0009]; Moore col.1:9-col.2:60).

Claim 2

The rejection of base claim 1 is incorporated. Keohane further teaches wherein the application and file type associations are determined by a file name extension associated with a specific file type (see at least paragraph [0009]).

Claim 3

The rejection of base claim 1 is incorporated. Moore further teaches wherein the computer software routine determines the priority of associating an application and file type in the virtual table by giving first priority to any application installed after insertion of the removable memory module (see at least col.1:45-60).

Claim 4

The rejection of base claim 3 is incorporated. Keohane further teaches wherein the computer software routine determines the priority of associating an application and file type in the virtual table by giving second priority to any application installed on recently connected removable memory modules with the more recently installed module given higher priority over subsequently installed memory modules (see at least paragraph [0010]).

Claims 5-11


Claims recite limitations, which have been addressed in claims 1-4, therefore, are rejected for the same reasons as cited in claims 1-4.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chrystine Pham whose telephone number is 571-272-3702. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TUAN DAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER